

Docket No.: 1509-114PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :  
 Cheh GOH et al :  
 Serial No. : Group Art Unit:  
 Filed: May 26, 2000 - herewith : Examiner:  
 For: CONFIGURING COMPUTER SYSTEMS :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the  
 referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9-14, 16, 18 and 20-24 as  
 follows:

1. (amended) An apparatus [(22,44)] for use in generating  
 configuration information for a computer system [(12)] employing  
 hierarchical entities, the apparatus comprising:

[means (42)] a policy system for receiving a definition [(24)]  
 of a high-level policy[, ] for the configuration of the computer  
 system[, ] and permitted refinements to that policy, the definition  
 referring to a plurality of the entities;

[means (16)] an entity memory for storing information about